

# Project Selection Future Work

Transportation Policy Board | March 14, 2024



Puget Sound Regional Council



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# Today's Agenda

- Review of two items flagged for future work from the discussion on the *2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*
  - Addressing general purpose capacity projects on limited access highways
  - Setting scoring thresholds for funding
- Board direction on scope and schedule for this work



# Concept: Limit to Eligible Projects for PSRC Funds

The Transportation Policy Board considered prohibiting projects on limited access highways that add general purpose vehicle capacity to compete for PSRC's federal funds

- Would only limit projects on these specific state highways that add general purpose lanes
- Projects addressing safety, preservation, HOV on these facilities would still be eligible
- Projects adding capacity on other facilities would still be eligible

Recommendation did not pass, but staff was directed to continue to research and evaluate this concept



# Concept: Limit to Eligible Projects for PSRC Funds

Board direction on scope and schedule:

- **Preliminary staff suggestion:**
  - Identify specific examples of projects that would be allowed and projects that would be prohibited
  - Identification of previous projects that would have been impacted
  - Given project selection schedule, staff would propose coming back to the board with information in late fall
- **What other questions need to be addressed?**



# Concept: Scoring Threshold

The Transportation Policy Board considered setting a scoring threshold, below which projects would not be considered for funding

- Would set a priority to fund only projects that best meet criteria and regional policy
- Concerns specifically raised with funding low-scoring “immediately ready to go” projects on the contingency list – after competition – to meet the annual delivery target
  - *Mitigated with recently approved project tracking revisions*



# Concept: Scoring Threshold

- Given evenly split board opinion and logistical details to be determined (across regional and countywide competitions):
  - Recommendation that staff be directed to work with RPEC on this concept and return to the board later in 2024 with a more defined proposal and administrative details
    - *Can be amended into PSRC's Project Tracking Policies and Procedures*
    - *Would not affect 2024 project selection process, but could affect 2024 and future contingency distributions and 2026 project selection process*



# Concept: Scoring Threshold

Board direction on scope and schedule:

- Given the 2024 project selection process schedule, staff proposes to begin this work with RPEC and return with options in late fall
  - Data on scores of funded projects to date will be provided
  - Options and potential implications across forums
  - Are there other specific parameters the board would like considered?

